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# Program Memorandum

## Carriers

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Department of Health and  
Human Services (DHHS)  
HEALTH CARE FINANCING  
ADMINISTRATION (HCFA)

Transmittal B-00-60

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### CHANGE REQUEST 1380

**SUBJECT: New Temporary "K" Codes for Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC) Devices**

Seven temporary "K" codes have been established to be used with the new Regional Medical Review Policy (RMRP) that implements the new National Coverage Decision (NCD) found in the Coverage Issuances Manual §60-23 for augmentative and alternative communication devices. The new codes will read:

- K0541 – Speech generating device, digitized speech, using pre-recorded messages, less than or equal to 8 minutes recording time  
(TOS = A,P,R BETOS = D1E Coverage = D Pricing = 32)
- K0542 - Speech generating device, digitized speech, using pre-recorded messages, greater than 8 minutes recording time  
(TOS = A,P,R BETOS = D1E Coverage = D Pricing = 32)
- K0543 - Speech generating device, synthesized speech, requiring message formulation by spelling and access by physical contact with the device  
(TOS = A,P,R BETOS = D1E Coverage = D Pricing = 32)
- K0544 - Speech generating device, synthesized speech, permitting multiple methods of message formulation and multiple methods of device access  
(TOS = A,P,R BETOS = D1E Coverage = D Pricing = 32)
- K0545 – Speech generating software program, for personal computer or personal digital assistant  
(TOS = A,P,R BETOS = D1E Coverage = D Pricing = 32)
- K0546 – Accessory for speech generating device, mounting system  
(TOS = A,P,R BETOS = D1E Coverage = D Pricing = 32)
- K0547 – Accessory for speech generating device, not otherwise classified.  
(TOS = P,R BETOS = D1E Coverage = D Pricing = 46)

These codes affect the VIPS standard system, the CWF, and the local DMERC systems. The CWF categories affected for codes K0541 – K0546 are Inexpensive and Routinely Purchased (04) and DMERC Submitted (60). The CWF categories affected for code K0547 are Miscellaneous (17), Not Otherwise Classified (56) and DMERC Submitted (60). The POS for these codes are 12, 33, 54, 55 and 56.

**The *effective date* for this Program Memorandum (PM) is January 1, 2001.**

**The *implementation date* for this PM is January 1, 2001.**

**These instructions should be implemented within your current operating budget.**

**This PM may be discarded after January 1, 2002.**

**If you have any questions, contact Angie Costello at ( 410) 786-1554 or ([acostello@hcfa.gov](mailto:acostello@hcfa.gov)).**